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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China/Taiwan/Japan

DATE DISTR 2 Feb 52

SUBJECT Nationalist Attitude Toward the Third Force Movement

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. The Nationalist Government has never given the Chinese Mission in Japan any specific instructions concerning third force groups in Japan. The Political Department of the Ministry of National Defense has issued instructions to the mission in Japan on two occasions to report the activities of persons who were alleged to have travelled from Hong Kong to Japan to contact the General Headquarters of the Far Eastern Command and the Japanese Government for the expansion of the third force movement. The persons concerning whom the MND requested information were CHAO Yu-sung (趙育松), HAN Yun-chieh (韓雲階), and CH'EN Chung-fu, all former officials of the WANG Ching-wei government with good connections in Japanese official circles.
2. The mission has reported no specific group or persons as belonging to the third force. Although the Nationalist government pays little attention to the movement because of its feeble military and political strength, it does maintain a black list of those connected with the movement headed by LI Tsung-jen, HSU Tsung-chih, CHANG Fa-kuei, CHANG Chun-mai, and CHANG Kuo-tao. The present official opinion toward LI and his followers is lukewarm. They are being neither offended nor encouraged, because if the government openly offended them, it would be condemned; and if it openly supported them, it would lose all of its own followers to the third party. Communist cruelty has promoted loyalty to the Nationalist government: the majority of the Nationalist followers would prefer a third alternative.
3. The Nationalist Government receives information on third force activities from the mission in Japan only when such information has been requested. Normally the First Section of the mission would be responsible for supplying such information. Because of the ill feeling between General HO Shih-li, chief of the mission, and Colonel LOUIE,¹ chief of the First Section, however, HO has delegated SUNG Yueh-lun, the mission's public relations officer, to do the job instead.

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1. [REDACTED] for reference to Colonel LOUIE's official position.

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Document No. 004
No Change in Class. ☒
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Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 6 Sep 78

REFERENCE COPY

Approved For Release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R010000400006-4

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